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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT

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U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION

(Release on receipt)

SUBJECT: "Stake Your Claims" ... Information from the Reports and Special Programs Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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There was a time...well within the memory of every homemaker...when sleepless people couldn't count sheep...to lull them into dreams. These hapless persons had forgotten what sheep...to say nothing of cows and pigs...looked like...either on the platter, alive, or finally, even in their dreams.

But that...fortunately...was a long time ago...way last summer sometime. Things are quite different now...and realities as well as dreams are getting better all the time.

Meat for civilians for the last quarter of 1945...will allow an annual average per capita rate of almost 148 pounds. That is about the same as for 1944...and is 22 pounds more than the average for the pre-war years, 1935-39.

That's more meat than civilians have had during 1945 too...it's nearly 30 percent more than that allocated for the third quarter...and 28 percent more than the second quarter allocation.

The reasons for all this good news are simple...the reduction in military requirements...and the seasonal increase in livestock marketings. Last year at this same time...military demands were 50 percent higher than they are now.

In addition...the October-December quarter is normally the season of greatest meat production...because of the peak marketing of cattle, lambs, and hogs.

Pork supplies will still be a little short of demand...because of a reduction in the spring pig crop. The fall crop, however, will be coming to market before the spring of 1946.

(more)

10-8-45

There should also be more veal and lamb soon. It's true that actual production is a little less than it was this time last year...but reductions in government buying will make more veal and lamb available for you.

The meat picture for the last part of 1945 is much better than it was earlier this year. True...pork is still short of demand...and not many little pigs will get to market until next spring. In the meantime...how about more veal...more lamb...and especially more steaks for your dinner...in place of the erstwhile meatless main dishes.

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